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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement.

TO: Renata B. Hesse
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FROM: Jont Allen

It is critical, in my view, that MS be dealt with severely. They have broken the law. This is not the right time to "get soft" on them with a lame excuse that it is good for the US economy.

What would be good for the economy is to open up the software industry to competition.

Having a single source for all PC software is like having a virus. We need competition in the software industry. MS is a double monopoly. They own the desktop OS AND the applications. Breaking them up may create two single monopolies, but this improvement would lead to a much stronger software industry over the next few years. The US economy would be one of the big winners in such a breakup.

The above is my personal view. I use Linux software. I have never had a computer virus. I would like others to see the advantages of Linux. If MS has its way, Linux will be squashed like a bug. If MS is broken in two, the applications half will start producing Office for Linux, in short order. If not, they won't. This would greatly increase competition in the computer industry. I am guessing that Judge Jackson saw this clearly, and that is why he decided they should be broken up. In my view, this is the only rational solution to

a very serious problem.

Jont Allen

``It is hard to abandon the feeling that the unfamiliar is absurd and illogical."
--G.A. Miller, p. 5 of his book 'Language and communication'

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CC: Richard Blumenthal